



Lazarus

Week of December 8, 2019

Jelly of the Month • John 11:1-44 • Message 2

Icebreaker

Do you cry when watching movies?

Are you more likely to cry when you feel sad or when you see someone else cry?

Mary, Martha, and Lazarus

Disappointment • John 11:1-17

Jesus, who could have healed Lazarus at a distance instead does nothing, waiting around for Lazarus to die. How do you feel about Jesus' inaction regarding Lazarus?

Throughout this section, Jesus gives indications that he is planning to do a miracle. Does it change the way you feel knowing that Jesus is planning to raise Lazarus or does it still seem insensitive to you? Why?

When you are going through a hard time, does it comfort you to think that God still has a plan at work in the midst of your pain?

Answers • John 11:25-44

What is Jesus' plan for all who believe in him?

Jesus says, "believe in me" but Martha replied saying she believed that Jesus was the Messiah. What's the difference between believing **in** and believing **that**?

What was Jesus' plan for Lazarus?

Jesus knew that he was about to raise Lazarus from the dead. He had been planning this moment for days. So why did he weep? What clues do you get from the story about the reasons for his tears?

The people thought Jesus was crying because of his love for Lazarus, but the author wants us to think Jesus was crying because of his love for Mary and Martha, the mourners, and all of us even today who face pain and loss. Even though Jesus has a good plan, and even though his plan sometimes might seem insensitive, we need to always remember that he understands our pain and even joins us in the midst of it. He is compassionate and he loves you.

What's your response to this week's main idea?

**The Jesus who disappoints you truly loves you,
and his plan is for eternal life, so believe in him.**



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